

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Claims 20-37 remain pending in the present application, claims 32-37 having been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected species.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 20-31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yumoto et al. (USP 6,734,910). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the “Response to Arguments” section of the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that claim 20 does not distinguish from Yumoto et al. because

Yumoto et al. discloses an overwriting operation for cyclically storing image data, in which all the images stored in the areas G1 to G16 are respectively shifted by one area to adjacent areas and thereby the earliest image data in G1 is erased (non-selected frames of image signals are deleted), and the newest image data is written in the empty G1 (hold frames of image signals picked up during a period of time based on a release operation.

Applicants respectfully submit that, as acknowledged by the Examiner, Yumoto erases the earliest image data by shifting the images stored in areas G1 to G16 so that the newest image data can be written in the empty G1. In other words, after the images stored in G1 to G16 have been shifted, the shifted images are still held in areas G2 to G16.

In contrast, the claimed invention of the present application, the controller causes “non-selected frames of image signals, as distinguished from the one frame of image signal selected, existing in said recording device to be deleted, such that only the selected one frame of image signal is maintained.”

Yumoto does not disclose or suggest that all non-selected images (in the embodiment shown in Fig. 5, image stored in G10 is the selected image, and the images stored in G1-G9 and G11-G16 are non-selected images) are deleted, “such that only the selected one frame of image signal is maintained,” as recited in claim 20.

Claims 21-31, variously dependent on claim 20, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims in the present application are respectfully requested.

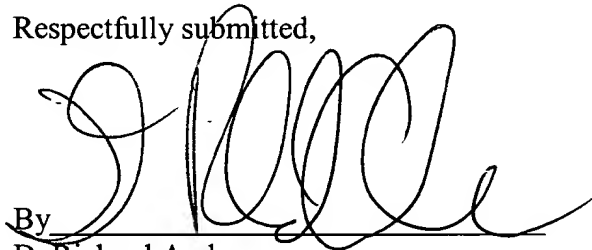
The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it raises no new issues. Alternatively, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it places the application in better form for Appeal.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi (Reg. No. 40,417) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 27, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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